



The BLUES NEWS

The official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers Football Club



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Issue No. 38

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LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
&
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DATE	OPPONENTS	K-O	TYPE	HOME/AWAY
Sat-1st March	Millwall	3.00pm	League	Away
Tues-4th March	Brentford	7.45pm	League	Away
Wed-5th March	Cambridge	2.00pm	Capital	Away
Sat-8th March	Bristol Rovers	3.00pm	League	Home
Tues-11th March	Slough Town	7.45pm	B&B	Away
Wed-12th March	Woking	7.45pm	Capital	Away
Sat-15th March	Chesterfield	3.00pm	League	Away
Sat-22nd March	Gillingham	3.00pm	League	Away
Wed-26th March	Stevenage	7.45pm	Capital	Away
Sat-29th March	Shrewsbury Town*	3.30pm	League	Home
Mon-31st March	Bury	7.45pm	League	Away
Wed-2nd April	Northampton Town	2pm	Capital	Home
Sat-5th April	Blackpool	3.00pm	League	Home
Tues-8th April	Luton	7.45pm	League	Away
Sat-12th April	Notts County	3.00pm	League	Away
Tues-15th April	Burnley	7.45pm	League	Home
Wed-16th April	Rushden & Diamonds	7.45pm	Capital	Away
Sat-19th April	A.F.C. Bournemouth	3.00pm	League	Home
Wed-23rd April	Stevenage	7.45pm	Capital	Home
Sat-26th April	Stockport County	3.00pm	League	Away
Mon-28th April	Barnet	2pm	Capital	Home
Sat-3rd May	Bristol City	3.00pm	League	Home

*QUID A KID - Under 16's gain admission for only £1

7/2/97

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THE BLUES NEWS

A question of quarters

COMMERCIAL BREAK
By Mark Austin

THE club has received much praise for the way it handled the last supporters survey, having hopefully learned the lessons of the previous one.

This time fans had ten days to respond instead of a few hours and the survey went out to a much wider audience thanks to the sports desk at The Bucks Free Press. Of the 330 plus who kindly took the time and effort to respond, 65 filled in the coupon in the Bucks Free Press.

The response for a move back to quarters was staggering. The club was aware that most fans wanted quarters, but the fact that 92 per cent wanted an eventual move back to quarters for all three strips has sent an overwhelming message to the board of directors.

Ninety-eight per cent voted to support John Gregory's wish to introduce a new quartered away kit in addition to retaining the white strip with navy and red trim for the 1997/98 season.

To highlight the fact that the club is continuing with the current white Mizuno replica kit for the 1997/98 season it is introducing March Madness at 9am on Saturday March 1 at Wanderers in Town in the Octagon Shopping Centre. Anybody buying a white shirt or kit will get a current home shirt or kit absolutely free. (Kids for kids, adults for adults or kids) For further details and terms and conditions see elsewhere in this edition of Blues News.

Many people wanted to know why the question about playing on either a Tuesday night or a Wednesday night was included on the survey. The board simply wanted to ensure that the majority did want a Tuesday night.

John Gregory has



expressed a very strong preference for continuing to play on a Tuesday night. With 74 per cent of fans in the survey either preferring a Tuesday night or not minding, clearly our traditional Tuesday football nights are safe.

The Club also invited fans to express their views on the back of the survey forms. Please be assured all these replies have been passed on to the relevant managers and directors for their attention.

I hope Wycombe Wanderers are perceived as a club that genuinely does want to listen to its customers, provide them with excellent facilities, entertaining football and a tremendous service.

Last week I had a very positive meeting at Adams Park with Sharon Deighton, Chairman of Wycombe Wanderers Independent Supporters Club and Colin Strange Chairman of the Official Blues Supporters Association. The main subject of discussion was the new quartered away kit and the implications of the results of the supporters mini survey.

Both agreed that red and navy quarters were not a practical option thanks to supporter Martin Bell who had kindly graphically drawn up all the kits in Division Two in colour. Over 70 per cent played in predominantly red or blue, so red and navy is clearly not an option.

Both Sharon and Colin came up with helpful

suggestions of how the club could hopefully shift existing replica stock. The Buy One Get One Free offer really came out of my meeting with them. My thanks go to both for being so helpful and giving up their time to meet me after work.

It was fantastic to see all the boxes full at the Watford match last Saturday and the ServisPak Stand nearly full. The record league crowd at Adams Park of 8,438 (previous best 7,863 v Oxford United 94/95 season) brought with it record league gate receipts and record matchday programme sales.

In the total attendance

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Pictures for this edition of The Blues News were supplied by the Bucks Free Press.

The Blues News is the official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers. It is produced in association with the Bucks Free Press. Any correspondence should be sent to the Editor, The Blues News, Wycombe Wanderers Football Club, Hillbottom Road, Sands, High Wycombe, High Wycombe, Oxfordshire (0494) 472100. Fax (0494) 527633.

Capital calls for Blues

WANDERERS face two trips to the Capital in the space of four days this week.

Tomorrow they make their first ever visit to The New Den to take on a fast improving Millwall side in the Nationwide Second Division.

Then on Tuesday night skipper Terry Evans and Jason Cousins return to their old club Brentford as the Blues take on the league leaders in a re-arranged game.

In the matches at Adams Park Wycombe beat Millwall 1-0 but lost by the same scoreline against the Bees.

Desouza and Evans take the sponsors' prize

MIQUEL Desouza was the sponsors' choice as the Laurent Perrier Man of the Match in last Saturday's scoreless draw against

neighbours Watford.

Migs was chosen by Monsanto who are based at the Sands Industrial Estate. Mr Alan Huddart of Monsanto

presented Miquel with a bottle of Laurent Perrier Brut Champagne and an Ely Trophy.

Skipper Terry Evans was

Molins choice for the Laurent Perrier Man of the Match award after Tuesday's victory against Peterborough.

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THE BLUES NEWS

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Carroll joins Blues' bad boy league

GREG'S GRAPEVINE
By John Gregory

WELL I have to tell you I finally caught The Legend last month. After weeks of hiding in the passageways, standing by the front door of Adams Park, waiting for him to turn up late, listening for him to swear aloud in public, he finally got caught - walking into the showers without a stitch on. Not even his sandals! Jesus himself, David Carroll, caught with nothing on his feet!

So Wavey has at last succumbed to the dreaded fine book. I think that just leaves Big Tel without a fine. In fact, we've caught him a few times, but Richard and I haven't had the bottle to tell him!

Fines kitty has now reached £205.00 since Christmas. It will run until May 3.

Anybody wishing to donate any amount however big or small please send to Mr R Hill, Chairman of WWFC Fines Committee, Adams Park, Hillbottom Road, Sands, High Wycombe, Bucks.

All donations will go towards a specially selected children's charity in the High Wycombe area.

Our league position is still precarious, but since the last issue of the Blues News we have added 11 more points.

We are gaining confidence as the games go by and even though the remaining fixtures represent many difficult hurdles, we still firmly believe that we have the capabilities to escape the bottom four and finish with some salvaged pride to see us through the summer and a fresh challenge in Division Two again next August.

The new players have bedded in reasonably well and have shown they have got what it takes to improve standards at Adams Park not only for this season but for the next few

seasons to come.

I am hoping that the month of March will see the return of John Cornforth. He has suffered a hamstring injury and a niggling Achilles tendon problem since he became my second signing last December. John only has 40 minutes to show for his Wanderers career so far, and I know he is raring to get back with the lads - if only to get away from Dave Jones!

March also sees the transfer deadline. It is customary for the third Thursday in that month to see the mad scramble for transfers whether on loan or permanent. It will signal the last chance for us managers to make the last signings or sales for the current season. After the 27th it is too late.

I can tell you now I will definitely be adding to our squad, so watch this space for any developments!

I would like to take time out to thank all those supporters who replied to our recent questionnaire regarding our proposed new away kit.

I initially had in mind red and navy quarters, but after seeing some of the mock-ups I felt that the yellow and navy quarters was not only more attractive but more practical, particularly when playing at night under floodlights and quite definitely more sexy. I am glad that the majority of you shared my view with the selection on the yellow and navy quartered shirt and we are looking forward to the launch of our new change strip on May 3 when we entertain Bristol City here at Adams Park.

We now have 14 games to play with my target of 53 points a viable proposition.

We must win our home games then we will be safe, so let's have your backing in numbers, like we had for the visit of Watford last weekend, and together I am sure we will make it.

Regards, John.



In charge: Gregory hits Dave Carroll with a fine



Proud moment: Gregory, Chairman Ivor Beeks and Mo Harkin's parents watch the youngster sign professional forms

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Play a round with your hero

THERE is still time for you to join Wanderers players and Premier League stars out on the golf course.

Wycombe Wanderers are organising a Footballers/Celebrity Golf Day at Chesham's Chartridge Park Golf Club on April 1, with superb prizes for the first three teams.

The competition, which will have a shotgun start, will be run to fourball Stableford rules with the best two scores counting on each hole. There is also a nearest the pin contest and longest drive competition on both the first and ninth holes.

Every team has the option to have a celebrity/footballer in their team.

The £300 entry fee includes four green fees, light lunch, presentation gala four course waitress served dinner in the evening where the guest speaker will be Wanderers' manager John Gregory. He will be joined by comedian Peter Lucas who will be providing the after dinner entertainment.

To book a team of four contact the Sales and Marketing Department on (01494) 472100.

Although, taking place on April 1 the club is keen to stress that it is not an April Fools joke.

A club spokesman said: "This date has been carefully chosen. It has been picked because all the players will be available as they will have played the day before on Easter Monday, so the majority will be given Tuesday 1st April off."

Wanderers are away to promotion chasers Bury on Easter Monday.

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Wanderers bring back the quarters after overwhelming fans survey



Smart gear: This is the new away kit Wanderers will use alongside their white effort on their travels next season.

WYCCODAH! Wanderers have decided to introduce a new away shirt next season after consulting with fans.

The club on a representation from supporters has decided to go with a design featuring a kangaroo, the club's emblem, on both the front and back of the shirt.

It will be used

alongside the white

and black shirt

when the team

plays away from

the current home

kit, which is due

to be worn this day.

The club intends

to use the away

kit in all its fixtures

next season.

The club has

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for the 1997/98

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THE BLUES NEWS

Bosman lifts the standards

LETTER TO A FAN
By Club Director
Graham Peart

IN the dark ages there was a torture machine called the rack. Unfortunate souls were treated to it if they misbehaved. Running a club in Nationwide Division Two has some metaphorical similarities.

You, dear supporter became frustrated last season when we appeared to lose ground against our competitors. You then understandably became distressed when the apparent gentle slide became a free fall until we were bottom of the league. If you thought that was painful it was not nearly so agonising as hitting the bottom of the pit.

Looking back to last season and the first part of this one it has become clear that we were not going backwards that fast. It was all the others improving at great speed. You only have to look at the cup performances of Stockport, Chesterfield and Wrexham this season. They have all taken

Premiership scalps, some more than once. The standards have risen in Division Two. Our standards did not but they are now improving. Sixteen points from nine games is good by any measure.

Two months ago I wrote to you explaining why there were so many useful First Division players available for modest transfer fees. All entirely due to Marc Bosman and the subsequent large pool of talented European players available on free transfers to Premier clubs prepared to pay mega wages. English Premier players were then displaced to Division One. The available Division I players have found happy homes in Division Two clubs and the quality of play has significantly improved. The reason that so many clubs in our Division have joined the race

to gain promotion is mainly fear. Divisions Two and Three could be part time within five years following the Italian example. Serie A and B is full time and relatively affluent with the rest cast adrift and part-time with some going bankrupt. Fear has driven many clubs to shut their eyes to reality and go for the big push. Division One or bust - literally. Millwall and Bournemouth have done it. Crewe have linked up with Liverpool as a feeder club. There will be other developments before the season is out.

As for your club? It's twixt and tween. We're playing some excellent football and not getting the results sometimes deserved. Local companies have been brilliant with their support and sponsorship. Thank you for keeping our heart beating. Yet we are not attracting enough fans. Just under 5000 for a top Saturday game against Crewe is not enough. Our nightmares are over now. Come back, We need you!

Mark your man now sold out

All the players and management in the club's mark your man scheme have now signed up.

The complete list is: John Gregory by James, Harry and Victoria Summer, Graham Hall by Sharon and Gary Trimby, Miguel Desouza by Hampden Saw Mills, Mickey Bell by Graphic Arts Supplies Ltd, Steve Brown by John Palmer, Brian McGarry by Frances Carvell, Paul McCarthy by Denzil, Margaret and Andrew Ashcroft, Dave Farrell by Denzil, Margaret and Andrew Ashcroft, Dave Carroll by Mike Clark,

Gary Patterson by The Adams Family Fanzine, Matt Crossley by Ann Cohen & Co Solicitors (01494 677421), Maurice Harkins by Wycombe Wanderers Independent Supporters Club, Brian Parkin by Chairboys On The Net 100746.232@compuserve.com, Terry Evans by Carvels Newsagents, Marlow, Anthony Clark by Gerald Edelman Chartered Accountants, Keith Ryan by Link Precision Services (01844 347062), Terry Skiverton by City Index Spread Betting (0171 528 9887), Richard Hill (Assistant Manager) by Francis Glenister, Salomon Brothers Int. Ltd (0171 721 3891), Jason Cousins by Liz Baines, Steve McGavin by Sharon Healey, Dave Jones (Physio) by The Smurffettes, John Cheesewright by Bill and Sheila, The Disraeli Arms, Jason Kavanagh by Andrea Webster-Brown, Neil Smillie by The Blues Supporters Club (01494 563697), John Cornforth by Coach No. 1, The Blues Supporters Club, Michael Forsyth by Bucks Auto Components and Michael Simpson by Alan, Richard and Richard



Michael Simpson has been snapped up by Alan, Richard and Richard

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IN SHORT
Sign up and join the LeagueLine

FANS can sign up for the Blues LeagueLine Society for just £2 a week.

Enrolment entitles you to a free children's terrace season ticket, or a free children's Family Stand seat season ticket obtained at the same time as an adult Family Stand seat season ticket, or a £15 discount on an adult or OAP season ticket.

New LeagueLine members must pay six months subscription (£32) in advance to receive this benefit. Cash discount reduces on a per match pro-rata basis. Members are entered in a £400 first prize weekly draw and get a five per cent discount at Wanderers In Town and the Cornerclub shops.

LeagueLine members who are also members of the Official Wycombe Wanderers Supporters Association in 1996/97 qualify for an additional five per cent discount.

All LeagueLine members get first priority booking alongside club members on all-ticket home matches, and an annual forum with club officials.

To sign up contact the club on (01494) 472100.

Mothers' Day

If your mother was the one who introduced you to Wycombe Wanderers and Adams Park you can return the favour by taking her back for a Mothers' Day Celebration Lunch in the Vere Suite on Sunday, March 9.

The menu costs £10 per head or £6 for children under 12. For full details of the choice of menu and to make a reservation contact Tony Leese, Mark Rawlings or Andy Pembroke at the club on (01494 472100).

Agents required

The Blues Development Fund Limited requires, door to door lottery agents for established rounds in Loudwater, Downley, Holmer Farm, Bowerdean, Stokenchurch and Booker

Agents receive the following benefits; commission, bonuses and a free season ticket to Wycombe Wanderers league matches (subject to certain conditions).

For more information telephone Mike Phillips at Adams Park on (01494) 472100

After prize money and expenses have been deducted, the Blues Development Fund donates its profits to Wycombe Wanderers Football Club for ground improvements.

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THE BLUES NEWS

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Blues under the spotlight

Read: Chapter and verse

FULL NAME: Paul Colin Read

DATE OF BIRTH: 25.09.73

HEIGHT: 5ft 11

WEIGHT: 12 stone 4

CAR: Rover 216 GTi

HOME: At home with parents

MARRIED: No

CHILDREN: None

DAD'S JOB: Site Engineer

BROTHERS & SISTERS: One sister

FAMILY PETS: None

NICKNAME AT CLUB: Readie

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

WHO DO YOU ROOM WITH ON AWAY TRIPS? Michael Simpson.

DOES HE HAVE ANY ANNOYING HABITS? No.

WHAT WAS YOUR AMBITION AS A CHILD? To be a professional footballer.

WHAT IS YOUR AMBITION NOW? To enjoy life and make a name for myself in football.

WHO WAS YOUR BOYHOOD HERO? Ian Rush.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE? Playing at Wembley Stadium aged 15.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT IN LIFE? Not playing for Arsenal first team.

WHAT IS YOUR



SADDEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL? Being injured.

WHICH PRESENT-DAY FOOTBALLER DO YOU ADMIRE MOST? Alan Shearer.

WHO IS THE GREATEST PLAYER THERE HAS EVER BEEN? Pelé.

WHO HAS BEEN THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER? My parents.

WHO IS THE TOUGHEST OPPONENT YOU HAVE FACED? Danny Maddix.

WHICH MANAGER HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER? Pat Rice.

AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT? Getting my golf handicap down to 10.

WHICH TEAM DID YOU SUPPORT AS A BOY? Arsenal and Millwall.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE GROUND? Highbury.

WHAT OTHER SPORTS AND HOBBIES DO YOU

ENJOY? Tennis, golf DO YOU HAVE ANY UNUSUAL FOOD THAT IMPROVES YOUR GAME? No.

AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE SPORTSMAN? Fred Couples.

DO YOU PLAY ANY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS? No.

IS THERE A SPORTING DREAM YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE ACHIEVED IN ANOTHER SPORT? Winning a golf major championship.

WHAT REALLY ANNOYS YOU IN FOOTBALL? Offside Rule.

WHAT ARE YOU PET HATES OUTSIDE FOOTBALL? Bad and stupid drivers.

FAVOURITES

POP STAR/GROUP: Blackstreet, any R & B Swing

FOOD: Pasta and chicken

DRINK: Lemonade and lime

FILM: Heat

FILM STARS: Robert De Niro

HOLIDAY RESORT: Cyprus

TV STARS: None

COMEDIAN: Harry Enfield

CITY: Paris, Vienna

SOAP: Eastenders, Brookside

SOAP CHARACTERS: None

COMPILED BY STEVE HAYES

FULL NAME: Michael Eric Forsyth

DATE OF BIRTH: 20.3.66

HEIGHT: 6ft

WEIGHT: 12st 7lb

HOME: four bed house in Birmingham

CAR: Ford Maverick and Fiesta

MARRIED: To Veronica

CHILDREN: Sam (7)

DAD'S JOB: Engineer

BROTHERS & SISTERS: Sue and John

PETS: Dogs; Mutley & Captain Nemo

NICKNAME AT CLUB: Bruce

WHO DO YOU ROOM WITH ON AWAY TRIPS? Jason Kavanagh.

DOES HE HAVE ANY ANNOYING HABITS? Shaving his legs in the sink.

CHILDHOOD AMBITION? To score England's World Cup winner

WHAT IS YOUR AMBITION NOW? Seeing England win the World Cup.

WHO WAS YOUR BOYHOOD HERO? Jimmy Case.

BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE? Birth of my children.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT IN LIFE? Discovering Pauline Calf is a bloke!

SADDEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL? Losing to Leicester in the play-off final for Derby.

MOST EMBARRASSING FOOTBALL MOMENT? Changing my split shorts on the pitch

FOOTBALLER DO YOU ADMIRE MOST? Stuart Pearce.

WHO IS THE GREATEST PLAYER EVER? Pele.

WHO HAS BEEN THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER? My parents.

WHO IS YOUR TOUGHEST OPPONENT? Kenny Dalglish.

WHICH MANAGER HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOU? Arthur Cox.

WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER? Public Speaker.

AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHAT'S YOUR GREATEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT? Gordon Cowans phoning me to play golf.

WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST MOMENT YOU HAVE SEEN ON A FOOTBALL PITCH? Derby's Martin Taylor taking a goal kick and getting dragged over the barrier by Charlton fans.

WHO WAS YOUR BOYHOOD HERO? Jimmy Case.

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SADDEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL? Losing to Leicester in the play-off final for Derby.

MOST EMBARRASSING FOOTBALL MOMENT? Changing my split shorts on the pitch

WHO DID YOU SUPPORT? Liverpool

FAVOURITE GROUND? Highbury

HOBBIES? Golf.

DO YOU HAVE ANY UNUSUAL FOOD THAT IMPROVES YOUR GAME? No.

FAVOURITE SPORTSMAN AWAY FROM FOOTBALL? Mike Tyson.

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION? England Caps

DO YOU PLAY ANY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS? The Banjo

IS THERE A DREAM YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE ACHIEVED IN ANOTHER SPORT? Win the Masters

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WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST

We can get out of trouble



On the ball: Terry Evans ready to fight for Second Division survival

PLYMOUTH was a great battling performance, we created a few good chances especially when Simmo and myself had efforts cleared off the line.

Our away form has clearly been the problem all season, at times we've played with confidence yet we have rarely claimed the deserved result.

I really cannot understand why we are not getting something out of these games, our preparation is excellent. We stay at good hotels and are in the right frame of mind. It is as frustrating for us as I am sure it is for you.

Crewe at home was another example of our battling performance. A first half goal gave us the confidence to go on to control the game. They threw everything at us for the last 15 minutes but I felt that they could have been there all night and would have not broken us down.

Preston was a thoroughly disappointing result for more than one reason. We did not play as well as in the previous few games but I felt we created enough chances and worked hard enough to take at least a point from the match.

Also, this was the first time in our League history that anybody had ever done the double over us which personally really hurt. At the end of the season I can just about live with this if no other team manages to do the same.

We knew that the encounter

CAPTAIN'S LOG By Terry Evans

David Jones is doing his best to put the players on good diets, it is however, funny to see John arriving with a bag of doughnuts for the lads! With sixteen games remaining, I feel we need to win at least eight or gain around 24 points to make us safe. This is not a position Wycombe Wanderers have ever found themselves in before so it is important that we all pull together.

It is easy to say that we are too good to go down but history has shown over the years that this statement means nothing. If we can produce never say die performances for the remainder of the season then we will pull away from danger.

There is no point reflecting on what could have been, results are what counts not how unlucky we have been, or excuses about poor pitches or dodgy refereeing decisions, we must remain focused and dig deep to get out of trouble.

It is great to see the old gaffer, Martin O'Neill doing so well in both cups for Leicester City.

It was a tough call for me to make as to who I would be rooting for, between Martin and my old mate Vinnie Jones when they met in the Coca Cola Cup semi final first leg at Filbert Street.

After the draw, Wimbledon look favourite to progress to the final but as we all know, you can never write off the Irishman especially where Wembley is concerned.

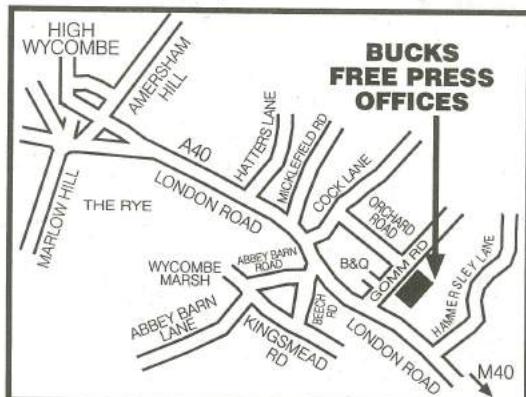
THINKING OF PLACING AN AD?

Pop into your locals!

It's so easy to sell those unwanted items, promote your business, fill that vacancy, sell your car - by walking into our Gomm Road office where you will receive a friendly welcome and expert advice on placing your advertisement or family announcement.

We're easy to get to, you'll find Gomm Road on the A40 between High Wycombe and Loudwater almost opposite B&Q.

So pop into your locals - it's so easy.



Opening hours at our Gomm Road Office are :-
9.00 - 5.30 Monday - Friday.
Deadline for advertisements is Tuesday 5.00 pm